



A NEW BEAN FOR SUBTROPICAL REGIONS.

(*Erythrina edulis* Triana, S. P. I. No. 51357.)

The "chachafruto," or "balu," is a gigantic bean produced by a small tree which grows in the Andes of Colombia. The pods, which are borne in clusters, contain two to six plump, dark-brown seeds, each 2 inches long by more than an inch in thickness. When boiled, these have the flavor of Lima beans, with an added trace of sweetness. They are very agreeable to the taste and are considered an excellent food in Colombia. Probably they can be grown in southern Florida and in a few parts of California, as well as in many other subtropical regions. The tree is much like the common *Erythrina cristagalli* in appearance; it reaches 20 or 25 feet in height and bears handsome orange-scarlet flowers. (Photographed by Wilson Popenoe, Fusagasuga, Cundinamarca, Colombia, September 15, 1920; P18058FS.)